

## **March 19-20, 2008 OWEB Board Meeting Executive Director Update #C3: Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund**

### **Background**

The Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund (PCSRF) has provided significant resources to Oregon and to OWEB's non-capital grant program since the fund's inception in 2000. Beginning last year, NOAA Fisheries initiated a competitive grant application and review process that each of the major recipients of PCSRF participated in. OWEB submitted a request of \$12.5 million dollars in May of 2007 and received \$6.8 million (after earmarks) in August of 2007. A similar process is underway in 2008.

### **FFY 2008**

On February 8, 2008, NOAA Fisheries announced the availability of Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2008 funding through a Federal Notice. Applications are due on March 24, 2008. OWEB's proposal describes the importance of the PCSRF to Oregon for its support of OWEB's non-capital grant program, local group capacity funding, and recovery plan development and implementation. OWEB's 2008 request is for \$12.5 million.

A new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) needs to be developed between OWEB and NOAA Fisheries for the use of the FFY 2008 funds. The existing MOU, negotiated in 2005, will remain in place for the life of the previously awarded PCSRF funds. NOAA Fisheries has also replaced its quarterly reporting requirements with semi-annual reports.

### **FFY 2009**

While the process of applying for and receiving the PCSRF 2009 funding is still not certain, staff anticipate a similar process as FFY 2007 and 2008. The President's budget proposes funding for PCSRF at \$35 million, which represents a nearly 50 percent reduction in the fund from the previous two fiscal years. With the significant reliance on PCSRF funding for watershed council and soil and water conservation district support in Oregon, it is prudent that we begin developing plans and priorities for managing with diminishing federal resources.

### **Staff Contact**

If you have questions or need additional information about the Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Funds, please contact Tom Byler, at [tom.byler@state.or.us](mailto:tom.byler@state.or.us) or 503-986-0180, or Greg Sieglitz, at [greg.sieglitz@state.or.us](mailto:greg.sieglitz@state.or.us) or 503-986-0194.